

Results of Southern blot analysis

All genomic digests and their corresponding Southern blots followed an identical lane order as described in Table I.

5

Table I

| Lane | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|---------|
| Strain | 1 kb molecular Weight Marker | 515 | A909 | SB35 | H36B | 18R21 | 1954/92 |
| Serotype | | Ia | Ia | Ib | Ib | II | II |

| Lane | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|----------|---------|---------|-------|------|------|---------|------|
| Strain | 118/158 | 97/0057 | BM110 | BS30 | M781 | 97/0099 | 3139 |
| Serotype | II | II | III | III | III | III | IV |

| Lane | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
|----------|---------|-------|------|------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Strain | 1169-NT | GBS 6 | 7271 | JM9 | Group A Streptococcus | <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> |
| Serotype | V | VI | VII | VIII | — | 14 |

10 For comparative purposes, it was decided to analyse the serotype distribution of the GBS *rib* gene, which encodes the known protective immunogen Rib. Rib has previously been shown to be present in serotype III and some strains of serotype II but not in serotypes Ia or Ib (Stralhammar-Carlemalm *et al.*, 1993). Confirmation of this pattern would not only give increased confidence in interpreting subsequent results, it would also determine if a *rib* gene homologue was present in the remaining GBS